

REMARKS

This paper is presented in response to the Office Action. Claims 1-20 are canceled, and new claims 21-40 are added. Claims 21-40 are now pending in this application as a result of the aforementioned cancellations and new claims.

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the new claims and the following remarks. For the convenience and reference of the Examiner, the remarks of the Applicant are presented in the order in which the corresponding issues were raised in the Office Action.

I. Claim Rejections

a. General considerations

In connection with the matters contemplated herein, Applicant respectfully notes that the new claims herein have been submitted merely to clarify aspects of various embodiments in view of elements purported by the Examiner to be taught by the cited references. The addition of such claims, as well as the cancellation of previously submitted claims, should not be construed as an acquiescence, on the part of the Applicant, as to the purported teachings or prior art status of the cited references, nor as to the characterization of the cited references advanced by the Examiner. Accordingly, Applicant reserves the right to challenge the purported teaching and prior art status of the cited references at any appropriate time.

b. claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and 35 U.S.C. § 103(b)

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-20 as novel and/or obvious in view of US 5,666,271 to Kim et al. and US 6,771,513 to LaMothe. Applicant disagrees with the contentions of the Examiner but submits that in light of the cancellation of claims 1-20 herein, the rejection of those claims has been rendered moot and should be withdrawn.

II. New Claims 21-40

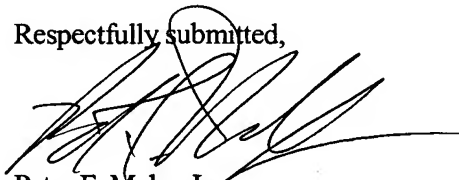
By this paper, new claims 21-40 have been added that are, in general, directed to an electronic equipment rack within which a card cage system is disposed (claims 21-30 and 34-40); and to a fastenerless connection system relating to card guides (claims 31-33). Inasmuch as the Examiner has not established that the cited references, either alone or in combination, anticipate or make obvious the subject matter of the new claims, Applicant respectfully submits that those claims are in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

In view of the remarks and amendments submitted herein, Applicant respectfully submits that each of the pending claims 21-40 is now in condition for allowance. Therefore, reconsideration of the rejections is requested and allowance of those claims is respectfully solicited. In the event that the Examiner finds any remaining impediment to a prompt allowance of this application that could be clarified in a telephonic interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to initiate the same with the undersigned attorney.

Dated this 15th day of August, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,



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